

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendment and the following arguments are provided to impart precision to the claims, by more particularly pointing out the invention, rather than to avoid prior art.

35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 16-17, 20-26, 35-36 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant fails to disclose an adequate written description of "one, and no more than one, magnetic layer over the substrate."

Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 16-17, 20-26, 35-36 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Applicant fails to provide an enablement of the "one, and no more than one, magnetic layer over the substrate."

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to remove the cited language.

35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1-7, 11, 16-17, 20-26, 35-36 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to remove the cited language.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 1, 6-7, 16-17, 20, 25-26, 35-36, and 38 under U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,404,317 (hereinafter "Mizoguchi '317").

Claim 1, as amended, includes a limitation of a first magnetic layer between the substrate and the first conductor, a second magnetic layer between the first conductor and the second conductor, and a third magnetic layer over the second conductor. Mizoguchi does not teach such a limitation, and therefore does not anticipate claim 1. The Examiner admits that Mizoguchi does not teach a second magnetic layer between the first conductor and the second conductor. Applicant therefore requests that the § 102(e) rejection with respect to Mizoguchi be removed since Mizoguchi fails to teach the limitations of claim 1.

Claim 1 has been amended to include a limitation similar to that of claim 11. Therefore, claim 1 will be discussed with respect to the combination of Mizoguchi and Sato. Mizoguchi teaches that magnetic saturation is a problem where a conductor coil is close to soft magnetic cores (Col. 2, lines 59-67). Further, Mizoguchi is directed toward an inductive device with reduced magnetic saturation. Mizoguchi teaches that a transformer using limited current in order to prevent magnetic saturation would exhibit reduced inductance (Col. 3, lines 22-29), therefore limiting its effectiveness. Adding the additional magnetic layers found in the planar magnetic element of Figure 22 of Sato would increase the magnetic field, therefore creating magnetic saturation in the

transformer taught by Mizoguchi in Figure 21. The combination would destroy the intended function of the transformer taught by Mizoguchi. Therefore, since Mizoguchi states that magnetic saturation is detrimental to the transformer of Figure 21, and since adding a magnetic layer to the structure of Figure 21 would increase the magnetic field, Mizoguchi teaches away from a combination with Sato. As a result, claim 1 is patentable over Mizoguchi and Sato.

Independent claim 20 includes limitations similar to those of claim 1. Therefore, for the reasons stated above, claim 20 is also patentable over Mizoguchi and Sato. Dependent claims 6, 16-17, 25, and 35 depend from the above discussed independent claims, and therefore include the limitations of those independent claims. Therefore, since claims 1 and 20 are patentable over Mizoguchi and Sato, claims 6, 16-17, 25, and 35 are also patentable over Mizoguchi and Sato.

Claims 7, 26, 36, and 38 have been cancelled.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Examiner rejected claims 2-5 and 21-24 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mizoguchi '317 in view of "Influence Of In-Plane Anisotropy And Eddy Currents On The Frequency spectra Of The Complex Permeability Of amorphous CoZr Films," IEEE Transaction of Magnetism, January 1993 (hereinafter, "Fessant").

Claims 2-5 and 21-24 depend from the above discussed independent claims 1 and 20, and therefore include the limitations of claims 1 and 20. Therefore, since claims 1 and 20 are patentable over Mizoguchi and Sato, claims 2-5 and 21-24 are patentable over Mizoguchi, Sato, and Fessant.

Examiner rejected claim 11 under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mizoguchi '317 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,694,030 (hereinafter, "Sato").

Claim 11 includes a limitation of a magnetic layer disposed between all of the spiral-shaped signal path of the first conductor and all of the spiral-shaped signal path of the second conductor. For the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Mizoguchi teaches away from a combination with Sato. Therefore, claim 11 is patentable over Mizoguchi and Sato.

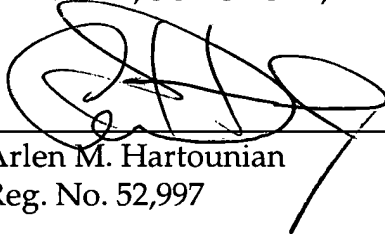
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Arlen M. Hartounian at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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